

Mandates for Services within the Office of the State Epidemiologist

Acute Disease Service

Governing Statutes

Prevention and Control of Disease

63 O.S. §1-106;

63 O.S. § 1-501 - § 1-508;

OAC 310:515-1-3

- Authorizes the State Board of Health to promulgate rules to establish a system of reporting cases of infectious disease
- Authorizes the Commissioner of Health to control, suppress or prevent the occurrence or spread of disease

Tuberculosis

63 § 1-401 - §1-410

- Authorizes the Commissioner of Health certain authorities to control tuberculosis including isolation, hospitalization or confinement for treatment

Emergency Preparedness and Response Service

Scott Sproat, MS, FACHE

Governing Statutes

Strategic National Stockpile

63 O.S. §682.1

This statute requires the State Department of Health to offer a vaccination program for first responders who may be exposed to infectious diseases when deployed to disaster locations. The OSDH has developed a Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) program at both the local and state level. The SNS program is designed to rapidly distribute medications to the population (including first responders) during public health emergencies.

Catastrophic Health Emergency Plan

63 O.S. §6102 - 6804

The purpose of this statute is to enable the government to exercise extraordinary government powers and functions to protect the health, safety, and general well-being of its citizens during a catastrophic health emergency (CHE). This statute also requires the convening of a task force and the development of a comprehensive plan to provide for a coordinated, appropriate response in the event of a catastrophic health emergency. This function has been overseen by the OSDH as an addendum to Emergency Support Function #8 (ESF #8), Health and Medical Services of the State's Emergency Operations Plan.

HIV/STD Prevention Service

Jan Fox, MPH, RN

Governing Statutes

VD/STD

63 O.S. 1-526 - 1-532

The referenced statutes authorize the BOH to promulgate rules to control and prevent Sexually Transmitted Diseases including isolation of infected persons. The statutes also outline duties imposed upon physicians, hospitals and penal institutions to report cases to OSDH and OSDH's responsibility to investigate such reports.

HIV Program

63-1-534.1 - 63-1-534.2

Designates the OSDH to act as the lead agency for the coordination of programs and services related to HIV and shall submit an annual report regarding the state plan to the Governor. The statutes define the content of the state plan.

Syphilis Testing

63 O.S. 1-515

This statute specifies that syphilis testing of pregnant women must be submitted to a lab which has been approved by the Commissioner of Health.

Immunization Service

Lori Linstead

Governing Statutes

Immunization Enforcement

70 O.S. §1210.191 - 1210.193

The provisions of these statutes authorize the BOH, by rule, to set the list of required immunizations of minor children for school entry. It also tasks the OSDH to supervise & secure the enforcement of the required immunizations; provide the required immunizations to such pupils whose parents are unable to pay; and serve as the depository for records of exemptions from the required immunizations.

Oklahoma Child Care Licensing Act

10 O.S. § 412

The provisions of this statute require the Department of Human Services to render assistance to the State Department Of Health in the enforcement of the required immunization program. This assistance shall be in the form of revocation or denial of the license of any child care facility not in compliance.

Meningococcal Meningitis

70 O.S. §1210.195;

70 O.S. §3242

The referenced statutes require the OSDH to work with the Department of Education to develop and make available information about meningococcal meningitis for distribution to middle school students, to include information regarding vaccination against the disease. The OSDH is also required to provide consultation to the State Board of Regents for Higher Education regarding vaccination against meningococcal disease for students of postsecondary educational institutions in this state.

Public Health Laboratory

S. Terence Dunn, PhD

Governing Statutes

Newborn Metabolic Screening

63 O.S. §1-533 - 1-534

The referenced statutes require the State Board of Health to promulgate such rules and regulations pertaining to newborn screening tests as accepted medical practice shall indicate, and is authorized to make such testing mandatory if sufficient evidence exists that the public has been negligent in accepting such practice and if the Board considers it in the public interest to do so. The State Board of Health is hereby authorized to set up laboratory facilities and use existing facilities for the performance of examinations and tests for the detection of these diseases and make a reasonable charge therefore.